
Application Guide: 2 Thessalonians 2

1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. Has anyone ever told you a lie that you believed? What was it about? How did it make you feel when you found out you had been deceived?

- b. Have you ever received a message from someone and completely misunderstood what the person meant? How did you discover the true meaning of the message? How did you correct the mistake?

2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

Why do you think Paul says not to be “easily shaken or alarmed by those who say the day of the Lord has already begun” (vs. 2)? Shouldn’t we be watching and waiting? Couldn’t the end come at any time? Paul says not to believe them, even if they have had what they believe to be a vision. Paul explains that certain events must happen first. What are those events?

Do you believe the “man of lawlessness” has already come, or is here now? Do you think we can know ahead of time who this man is, or is it someone we won’t recognize until he comes? Does this seem scary to you? Are you ever afraid you might be fooled?

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus will kill the “man of lawlessness”? When Paul says Jesus will “kill him with the breath of his mouth” and “destroy him by the splendor of His coming” (vs. 9), do you think that is literal or figurative language? Why do you think Paul uses the words “kill” and “destroy”? Is there a difference?

Paul says that people who are on their way to destruction will be fooled by the “man of lawlessness” because they refuse to love and accept the truth. Another characteristic of those who will be destroyed is that they would rather “enjoy evil” than “believe the truth” (vs. 10). What kind of people do you think enjoy evil? Can you give some examples of evil? How do you think you learn to believe and love the truth?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

- a. Are you able to easily accept and love the “truth,” or do you struggle with wanting to do things your own way? Why do you think that is? How do you think you can develop a greater desire for truth?
- b. Do you find yourself more encouraged by this passage or more discouraged? Why do you think that is?

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

- a. Pray for Jesus to help you recognize truth when you see it. Ask Him to give you the Holy Spirit to help you discern truth from error.
- b. Pray and ask Jesus to give you the wisdom and strength to accept and live out truth when he reveals it to you. Ask Him for power from the Holy Spirit.

5. Research Project

Search online for stories about the end of the world, as well as possible conspiracies that may be involved. Also research the “man of lawlessness” and see what you find. Do you think the information you found is more truth or deception?